



For the record my name is Kim Leighton and I represent NARAL Pro-Choice Montana, the state's largest grassroots organization dedicated solely to reproductive rights. We represent 1,200 members and 5,000 activists statewide.

We stand in full support of Senate Bill 107.

As an organization that believes in, and advocates under the reproductive justice framework, I come here today urging you to remove this language that is not only un-enforceable, but extremely offensive. Within this reproductive justice framework, we advocate within the reproductive rights platform, but also within a context that focuses attention on the social, political and economic inequalities among different communities that contribute to encroachments of reproductive justice.

NARAL Pro-Choice Montana operates under the belief that not only, do all people deserve the right to make their own personal, private medical decisions, but we also adhere to the credence that everyone should be given the space to live their lives privately and free from ideological attacks simply for who they are and who they love.

SB 107 does just that. The language provided in Section 45-5-505 of the Montana Code Annotated has been ruled unconstitutional and therefore only remains in the books to further demonize and vilify the LGBT community. It's offensive, disrespectful and it's time to finally put an end to this. You have the opportunity to do something really important – to send a very clear message. These are our friends, our family, our neighbors, our colleagues and our community members

who simply want to live their lives in peace, in a State, that doesn't tell them they are a second-class citizen, worth less than their straight counter-parts.

Words matter, and these words are especially sharp and hurtful. I implore you to take some time with this matter and consider what this means, and what the language in this code implies to the LGBT people in our State. I'll say it one more time. WORDS MATTER.

For these reasons, I strongly urge a DO PASS on Senate Bill 107. Thank you for your time.